

A SYSTEMATIC CLASSIFICATION FOR THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD,

REVISED AND AMENDED.

by

Alexander Wetmore

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Class Aves, Birds.

Subclass Archaeornithes, Ancestral Birds.

Order Archaeopterygiformes, Archaeopteryx, Archaeornis.

Family Archaeopterygidae, Archaeopteryx,

Archaeornis (fossil)

Subclass Neornithes, True Birds.

Superorder Odontognathae, New World Toothed Birds.

Order Hesperornithiformes, Hesperornithes.

Family Hesperornithidae, Hesperornis, Hesperia

(fossil)

Enaliornithidae, Enaliornis, Baptornis

(fossil)

Order Ichthyornithiformes, Ichthyornithes.

Family Ichthyornithidae, Ichthyornis (fossil)

Superorder Palaeognathae, Struthious Birds and Allies.

Order Struthioniformes, Ostriches.

Family Struthionidae, Ostriches.

Order Rheiformes, Rheas.

Family Rheidae, Rheas.



Order Casuariiformes, Cassowaries, Emus.

Family Casuariidae, Cassowaries.

Dromiceidae, Emus.

Dromornithidae, Dromornis (fossil)

Order Dinornithiformes, Moas.

Family Dinornithidae, Moas (fossil and extinct)

Anomalopterygidae, Anomalopteryx,

Amnus, and Allies (fossil and extinct)

Order Aepyornithiformes, Elephant-birds.

Family Aepyornithidae, Aepyornis (fossil and  
extinct)

Order Apterygiformes, Kiwis.

Family Apterygidae, Kiwis.

Order Tinamiformes, Tinamous.

Family Tinamidae, Tinamous.

Superorder Impennes, Penguins.

Order Sphenisciformes, Penguins.

Family Spheniscidae, Penguins.

Cladornithidae, Cladornis (fossil)

Superorder Neognathae, Typical Birds.

Order Gaviiformes, Loons.

Family Gaviidae, Loons.

Order Colymbiformes, Grebes.

Family Colymbidae, Grebes.

Order Procellariiformes, Albatrosses, Shearwaters,  
Petrels, and Allies.

Family Diomedidae, Albatrosses.

Procellariidae, Shearwaters, Fulmars.

Hydrobatidae, Storm Petrels.

Pelecanoididae, Diving Petrels.

Order Pelecaniformes, Tropic-birds, Pelicans, Frigate-  
birds, and Allies.

Suborder Phaethontes, Tropic-birds.

Family Phaethontidae, Tropic-birds.

Suborder Pelecani, Pelicans, Boobies, Cormorants,  
Snake-birds.

Superfamily Pelecanoidae, Pelicans and Allies.

Family Pelecanidae, Pelicans.

Cyphornithidae, Cyphornis, Palaecochenoides,  
(fossil)

Superfamily Suloidae, Boobies, Cormorants, and Allies.

Family Pelagornithidae, Pelagornis(fossil)

Sulidae, Boobies, Gannets.

Elopterygidae, Elopteryx, Eotaga, Acti-  
ornis (fossil).

Phalacrocoracidae, Cormorants.

Anhingidae, Snake-birds.

Superorder Frigate, Frigate-birds.

Family Fregatidae, Frigate-birds.

Superorder Odontopteryges, Odontopteryx, Pseudodontornis  
(fossil)

Family Odontopterygidae, Odontopteryx (fossil)

Pseudodontornithidae, Pseudodontornis  
(fossil)

Order Ciconiiformes, Herons, Storks, and Allies.

Suborder Ardeae, Herons, Bitterns.

Family Ardeidae, Herons, Bitterns.

Cochleariidae, Coat-billed Herons.

Suborder Balaenicipites, Whale-headed Storks.

Family Balaenicipitidae, Whale-headed Storks.

Suborder Ciconiae, Storks, Ibises, Spoonbills.

Superfamily Scopioidea, Hammerheads.

Family Scopidae, Hammerheads.



Superfamily Ciconioidae, Storks.

Family Ciconiidae, Storks, Jabirus.

Superfamily Threskiornithoidae, Ibises.

Family Threskiornithidae, Ibises, Spoonbills.

Suborder Phoenicopteriformes, Flamingos.

Family Agnotheridae, Agnotherus (fossil)

Scaniornithidae, Scaniornis, Parascaniornis  
(fossil)

Phoenicopteridae, Flamingos.

Order Anseriformes, Screamers, Ducks, Geese, Swans.

Suborder Anhimae, Screamers.

Family Anhimidae, Screamers.

Suborder Anseres, Ducks, Geese, Swans.

Family Anatidae, Ducks, Geese, Swans.

Order Falconiformes, Vultures, Hawks, Falcons.

Suborder Cathartae, New World Vultures.

Family Cathartidae, New World Vultures.

Teratornithidae, Teratornis (fossil)

Suborder Falcones, Secretary-birds, Hawks, Falcons.

Superfamily Sagittarioidae, Secretary-birds.

Family Sagittariidae, Secretary-birds.

Superfamily Falconoidea, Hawks, Falcons, and Allies.

Family Accipitridae, Hawks, Old World Vultures,  
Harris, Ospreys.

Falconidae, Falcons, Caracaras.

Order Galliformes, Megapodes, Curassows, Pheasants,  
Guinea.

Suborder Galli, Megapodes, Curassows, ~~Guinea~~ Grouse,  
Pheasants.

Superfamily Graculoidea, Megapodes, Curassows.

Family Megapodiidae, Megapodes.

Gallinuloididae, Megapodes- Gallinuloides  
(fossil)

- Cracidae, Curassows, Guans, Chachalacas.
- Superfamily Phasianoidae, Grouse, Pheasants, Turkeys.
  - Family Tetracidae, Grouse.
  - Phasianidae, Quails, Pheasants, Peacocks.
  - Numididae, Guinea-fowl.
  - Meleagrididae, Turkeys.
- Suborder Opisthocomi, Hoatzins.
  - Family Opisthocomidae, Hoatzins.
- Order Gruiformes, Cranes, Rails, and Allies.
  - Suborder Mesoenatides, Rostrels, Monias.
    - Family Mesoenatidae, Rostrels, Monias.
  - Suborder Turnices, Bustard-quails, Hemipodes.
    - Family Turnicidae, Bustard-quails.
    - Pedionomidae, Collared Hemipodes.
  - Suborder Grues, Cranes, Limpkins, Trumpeters, Rails.
    - Superfamily Gruoidea, Cranes, Limpkins, Trumpeters.
      - Family Geranoididae, Geranoides (fossil).
      - Bostridae, Bostrus (fossil).
      - Gruidae, Cranes.
      - Ardeidae, Limpkins.
      - Psophiidae, Trumpeters.
  - Superfamily Rallioidea, Rails.
    - Family Orthocnemidae, Orthocnemus, Elaprocnemus (fossil).
    - Rallidae, Rails, Coots, Gallinules.
  - Suborder Heliornithes, Sun-grebes.
    - Family Heliornithidae, Sun-grebes.
  - Suborder Rhynchoetii, Kagus.
    - Family Rhynchoetidae, Kagus.
  - Suborder Eurypygae, Sun-bitterns.
    - Family Eurypygidae, Sun-bitterns.



Suborder Phororhaci, Phororhacos and Allies.

Family Phororhacidae, Phororhacos, Pelecyornis and  
Allies. (fossil).

Brontornithidae, <sup>Bron</sup>Brontornis, Liornis and  
Allies (fossil).

Episthodactylidae, Opisthodactylus (fossil).

Suborder Cariamae, Cariamas and Allies.

Family Bathornithidae, Bathornis (fossil).

Hermosiornithidae, Hermosiornis, Procariana  
(fossil).

Cariacidae, Cariamas.

Suborder Otides, Bustards.

Family Otididae, Bustards.

Order Diatrymiformes, Diatryma, Gnorhamphus and Allies.

Family Diatrymidae, Diatryma (fossil).

Gastornithidae, Gastornis, Ramornis (fossil).

Order Charadriiformes, Shore-birds, Gulls, Auks.

Suborder Charadrii, Shore-birds.

Superfamily Jacanoides, Jacanas.

Family Jacanidae, Jacanas.

Superfamily Charadrioides, Plovers, Sandpipers, and  
Allies.

Family Rostratulidae, Painted Snipe.

Haematopodidae, Oyster-catchers.

Charadriidae, Plovers, Turnstones, Surf-birds.

Scolopacidae, Snipe, Woodcock, Sandpipers.

Recurvirostridae, Avocets, Stilts.

Presbyornithidae, Presbyornis (fossil).

Phalaropodidae, Phalaropes.

- Superfamily Dromadoidea, Crab-plovers.
  - Family Dromadidae, Crab-plovers.
- Superfamily<sup>8</sup> Burhinidea, Thick-knees.
  - Family Burhinidae, Thick-knees.
- Superfamily<sup>6</sup> Glareolidea, Plover, Coursers.
  - Family Glareolidae, Plover, Coursers.
- Superfamily Thinocoridea, Seed-snipe.
  - Family Thinocoridae, Seed-snipe.
- Superfamily Chionidea, Sheath-bills.
  - Family Chionidae, Sheath-bills.
- Suborder Lari, Gulls, Terns, Skimmers.
  - Family Stercorariidae, Skuas, Jaegers.
  - Laridae, Gulls, Terns.
  - Rynchopidae, Skimmers.
- Suborder Alcae, Auks.
  - Family Alcidae, Auks, Auklets, Murres.
- Order Columbiformes, Sand-grouse, Pigeons, Doves.
  - Suborder Pterocletes, Sand-grouse.
    - Family Pteroclididae, Sand-grouse.
  - Suborder Columbae, Pigeons and Doves.
    - Family Raphidae, Doves, Solitaires.
    - Columbidae, Pigeons, Doves.
- Order Psittaciformes, Lorikeets, Parrots, Macaws.
  - Family Loridae, Lorikeets.
  - Psittacidae, Parrots, Macaws.
- Order Cuculiformes, Plantain-eaters, Cuckoos.
  - Suborder Musophagi, Plantain-eaters.
    - Family Musophagidae, Plantain-eaters.
  - Suborder Cuculi, Cuckoos, Roadrunners, Anis.
    - Family Cuculidae, Cuckoos, Roadrunners, Anis.



Order Strigiformes, Owls.

Family Protostrigidae, Protostrix (fossil).

Tytonidae, Barn-owls.

Strigidae, Owls.

Order Caprimulgiformes, Oil-birds, Goatsuckers.

Suborder Steatornithes, Oil-birds, ~~g~~

Family Steatornithidae, Oil-birds.

Suborder Caprimulgi, Frogmouths, Goatsuckers.

Family Podargidae, Frogmouths.

Nyctibiidae, Potoos.

Aegothelidae, Owllet-frogmouths.

Caprimulgidae, Goatsuckers.

Order Micropodiformes, Swifts, Hummingbirds.

Suborder Micropodi, Swifts.

Family Aegialornithidae, Aegialornis (fossil).

Micropodidae, Swifts.

Hemiprocnidae, Crested Swifts.

Suborder Trochili, <sup>u</sup>Hummingbirds.

Family Trochilidae, Hummingbirds.

Order Coliiformes, Collies.

Family Coliidae, Collies.

Order Trogoniformes, Trogons.

Family Trogonidae, Trogons.

Order Coraciiformes, Kingfishers, Bee-eaters, Rollers,

Horn-bills.

Suborder Alcedines, Kingfishers, Todies, Motmots.

Superfamily Alcedinoidea, Kingfishers.

Family Alcedinidae, Kingfishers,

Superfamily Todioidea, Todies.

Family Todidae, Todies.

Superfamily Momotoidea, Motmots.

Family Momotidae, Motmots.

Suborder Meropes, Bee-eaters.

Family Meropidae, Bee-eaters.

Suborder Coraci, Rollers, Hoopoes.

Family Coraciidae, Rollers.

Leptosomatidae, Cuckoo-rollers and Ground-rollers.

Upupidae, Hoopoes.

Phoeniculidae, Wood-hoopoes.

Suborder Bucerotes, Hornbills.

Family Bucerotidae, Hornbills.

Order Piciformes, Jacamars, Barbets, Toucans, Woodpeckers.

Suborder Galbulae, Jacamars, Barbets, Toucans.

Superfamily Galbul<sup>oides</sup>~~ae~~, Jacamars, Puff-birds.

Family Galbulidae, Jacamars.

Bucconidae, Puff-birds.

Superfamily Capitonoides, Barbets, Honey-guides.

Family Capitonidae, Barbets.

Indicatoridae, Honey-guides.

Superfamily Ramphastoides, Toucans.

Family Ramphastidae, Toucans.

Suborder Pici, Woodpeckers.

Family Picidae, Woodpeckers, Picul<sup>e</sup>ts.

Order Passeriformes, Perching Birds.

Suborder Eurylaimi, Broadbills.

Family Eurylaimidae, Broadbills.

Suborder Tyranni, Ovenbirds, Tyrant Flycatchers, and Allies.

Superfamily Furnarioides, Ovenbirds, Wood-hewers, and Allies.

Family Dendrocolaptidae, Wood-hewers.

Furnariidae, Ovenbirds.

Formicariidae, Ant-thrushes.

Conopophagidae, Ant-pipits.

Rhinocryptidae, Tapaculos.



Superfamily Tyranoidea, Tyrant Flycatcher, Pittas, and Alcedinidae.

Family <sup>C</sup> ~~Cotingidae~~, Cotingas.

Pipridae, Manakins.

Tyrannidae, Tyrant Flycatchers.

Oxyruncidae, Sharp-bills.

Phytotomidae, Plant-cutters.

Pittidae, Pittas.

Xenicidae, New Zealand Wrens.

Philepittidae, Asities.

Suborder Menurae, Lyre-birds.

Family Menuridae, Lyre-birds.

Atrichornithidae, Scrub-birds.

Suborder Passeres, Song Birds.

Family Alaudidae, Larks.

Palaeospizidae, Palaeospiza (fossil)

Hirundinidae, Swallows.

<sup>C</sup> ~~Campephagidae~~, Cuckoo-shrikes.

Dicruridae, Drongos.

Oriolidae, Old World Orioles.

Corvidae, Crows, Magpies, Jays.

Paradisaeidae, Birds of Paradise.

Paradoxornithidae, Parrot-bills, Suthoras.

Paridae, Titmice.

Sittidae, Nuthatches.

Hyposittidae, Coral-billed Nuthatches.

Certhiidae, Creepers.

Chamaeidae, Wren-tits.

Timeliidae, Babbling Thrushes.

Pycnonotidae, Bulbuls.

Cinclidae, Dippers.

Troglodytidae, Wrens.  
Mimidae, Thrashers, Mockingbirds.  
Turdidae, Thrushes.  
Sylviidae, Old World Warblers.  
Regulidae, Kinglets.  
Muscicapidae, Old World Flycatchers.  
Prunellidae, Accentors, Hedge Sparrows.  
Motacillidae, Wagtails, Pipits.  
Bombycillidae, Waxwings.  
Ptilonotidae, Silky Flycatchers.  
Dulidae, Palm-chats.  
Artamidae, Wood-swallows.  
Vangidae, Vanga Shrikes.  
Laniidae, Shrikes.  
Prionopidae, Wood-shrikes.  
Cycalrhidae, Pepper-shrikes.  
Vireolaniidae, Shrike-vireos.  
Sturnidae, Starlings.  
Melithreptidae, Honey-eaters.  
Sterniniidae, Sun-birds.  
Dicaeidae, Flower-peckers.  
Zosteropidae, White-eyes.  
Vireonidae, Vireos.  
Coerebidae, Honey-creepers.  
Drepanididae, Hawaiian Honey-creepers.  
Cerambythidae, Wood Warblers.  
Ploceidae, Weaver-finches.  
Icteridae, Blackbirds, Troupials.  
Procnistidae, Swallow-tanagers.  
Thraupidae, Tanagers.  
Catamblyrhynchidae, Plush-capped Finches.  
Fringillidae, Grosbeaks, Finches, Buntings.